

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR
STRATEGIC SERVICES UNIT

25th & E STREETS, N.W.

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

13 January 1947

25X1

ILLEGIB

"Since 12 December 1946, Soviet troops have been reported crossing the Saxony border into Czechoslovakia. The troops, dressed in civilian clothes, crossed on foot in groups up to thirty men. Others travelled by car, truck, and wagon. Troop equipment was shipped by rail. The majority crossed the border via Zinnwald (F25), and Schirgiswalde (F69) or via Weipert and Jöhstadt (both K72).

"In an attempt to check numerous reports of the above type, informant went to Schellerhau (F15) on 17 December 1946. All streets were jammed with vehicles. Traffic consisted almost entirely of Russians moving toward Czechoslovakia and Germans attempting to escape from the border region into the interior of Saxony. A generous estimate by informant states that approximately 10,000 Russian troops are proceeding daily from this area to Czechoslovakia, where they are billeted privately or in barracks. Rumors of demobilization and subsequent walking to Russia due to the lack of transport are discounted by informant, who observed weapons and equipment around the barracks containing Russian units. Some troops wear Czechoslovakian uniforms. The 22nd Rifle Division is now in Komotau-Most (Brux) area (F-02-F-13) with its personnel in civilian clothes.

"Germans crossing into Czechoslovakia have been detained despite the possession of border permits. Informant cites the disappearance of forty persons between 10 - 17 December 1946. The only escapee reported that the women were sent to work assignments and the men to concentration camps in the interior of Czechoslovakia. Informant reports incidents of this kind from other areas on the border.

"On 17 December 1946, another informant visited [] in private quarters at Dresden-Hellerau ostensibly to obtain an interzonal pass. He was accompanied by the Colonel's German SMA assistant. The following statements were made [] in the course of the interview.

25X1

25X1

"An interzonal pass is unnecessary. He suggested illegal crossing, as many stretches are unguarded.

"The evacuation of troops from the Russian Zone is designed to confuse. He compared it to the East Front, when the Russians retreated only to advance again.

25X1

SECRET

U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

- 2 -

"The Soviet Army was reorganized and this project was completed 26 November 1946.

"The Stalin Guards soon will occupy the Russian Zone. These are Stalin pupil units patterned after the German S.S. and composed of elite troops between 19-25 years of age, unmarried, professional soldiers.

"The Karlshorst SMA was scheduled to transfer to the Dresden-Neustadt area in December. The alleged shift to Weimar was only a rumor.

"Saxony is to be a fixed part of the U.S.S.R., that is, a spearhead of the 'Russian Union Zone'.

25X1 Comment: The original for paragraph above isSachsen zu einem festen Bestandteil der UDSSR auszubauen and werde in der Lage sein, den Kopf der Russischen Unions Zone zu bilden."

25X1 Comment: For further references to troops in civilian clothes,
25X1

25X1

SECRET

U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY